

# Numerical Infinite Series Solution of the Ground-Return Pollaczek Integral

## *Solución numérica en series infinitas para la integral de retorno por tierra de Pollaczek*

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### Abstract

In this paper, the Wedepohl-Wilcox series, proposed for calculating ground-return impedances of buried cables and electromagnetic transients, are analyzed in detail. The origin of this series goes back to the original integral derived by Pollaczek. To enhance the analysis developed here, a numerical comparison between the series, the direct numerical integration of Pollaczek integral, and a proposed hybrid numerical algorithm is presented in this paper. The latter consists on: a) the use of a vector-type efficient algorithm for the converging series for low frequencies, and b) trapezoidal numerical integration for the high frequency range. In addition, and based on the analysis, a criterion for switching between series and direct numerical integration is proposed here.

### Keywords:

- cables
- frequency response
- power system transients
- earth-impedance
- ground-return models
- skin-effect

### Resumen

En este artículo se analiza con detalle la serie de Wedepohl-Wilcox, propuesta para calcular impedancias de retorno por tierra de cables subterráneos, así como transitorios electromagnéticos. El origen de esta serie se remonta a la derivación original de la integral de Pollaczek. Para mejorar el análisis desarrollado aquí se presenta una comparación numérica entre la serie, la integración directa de la integral de Pollaczek y se presenta un algoritmo híbrido numérico. Este último consiste en: a) el uso eficiente de un algoritmo vectorizado para series convergentes en el rango de baja frecuencia y b) la integración numérica trapezoidal para el rango de alta frecuencia. Adicionalmente, basándose en este análisis, se propone un criterio para switchear entre la solución de la serie y la integración numérica directa.

### Descriptores:

- cables
- respuesta en frecuencia
- transitorios en sistemas de potencia
- impedancia de tierra
- modelos de retorno por tierra
- efecto-skin

## Introduction

One of the most important techniques, over 85 years old, to calculate the influence of the ground-return on aerial and buried electrical conductors was posted by Von F. Pollaczek in June 1926. In this work, Pollaczek presented a set of integral expressions to evaluate the electric field due to an infinite thin filament of current in the presence of an imperfect conducting ground.

Unless, Pollaczek integrals are accurate enough for many power applications, several authors have developed approximate methods and closed-form solutions to avoid facing these rapidly increasing oscillating integrals.

One important publication related to this topic was published in 1973 by Wedepohl and Wilcox, in this publication, a complete mathematical model based on the modified Fourier integral for the synthesis of travelling wave phenomena in underground transmission systems was proposed. An important contribution in Wedepohl and Wilcox (1973) is the solution of Pollaczek's integral through a set of low frequency infinite series. To the best author knowledge, an efficient solution of the series has not been implemented nor included in any commercial software. Besides, it is argued that the series solution is rather complicated and it is better that the impedance is obtained directly from solving the Pollaczek's integral, numerically.

As a first objective, and inspired on the research in Wedepohl and Wilcox (1973), an efficient numerical implementation of the Wedepohl-Wilcox series solution is developed in this paper for calculating ground-return

impedances for underground cables, which can guarantee absolute convergence (Kaplan, 1981).

As a second objective, a comparison with four different algorithms for solving Pollaczek integral is presented for calculating electromagnetic transients. The first one corresponds to the originally proposed in Wedepohl and Wilcox (1973), i.e., solving the series for low frequencies and using a closed-form solution for the high frequency range. The second algorithm is proposed here and corresponds to a hybrid one. This is based on the rapidly converging series for low frequencies, combined with trapezoidal integration of the unexpanded integral expression for high frequencies (Wedepohl and Wilcox, 1973). The third and the fourth algorithms consist on trapezoidal numerical integration and Gauss-Kronrod routine, respectively, applied directly to the unexpanded and Pollaczek integral, without using approximating series.

As a third objective, the proposed hybrid algorithm is tested for a wide range of practical application cases on transient analysis. This is achieved by using normalized dimensionless variables according to an interpretation for underground cables of the application limits reported in (Ametani *et al.*, 2009).

The computational analysis of the studied algorithms is presented here regarding accuracy and CPU-time.

## Earth-return impedances

### Basic relations

The self and mutual earth-return impedance for a quasi-TEM<sub>z</sub> (transversal electromagnetic with respect to "z" axis) mode is described by (Figure 1 for reference directions) Wedepohl and Wilcox (1973):

$$Z_g(\omega) = \frac{j\omega\mu}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left[ \frac{e^{-|y+h|\sqrt{\alpha^2+1/p^2}}}{|\alpha| + \sqrt{\alpha^2+1/p^2}} + \frac{e^{-|y-h|\sqrt{\alpha^2+1/p^2}} - e^{-|y+h|\sqrt{\alpha^2+1/p^2}}}{2\sqrt{\alpha^2+1/p^2}} \right] e^{j\alpha x} d\alpha \quad (1a)$$

where  $\alpha$  is the dummy variable,  $\omega$  represents the angular frequency (in rad/s),  $\mu$  corresponds to the magnetic permeability (H/m) of the soil, and the complex depth or Skin Effect Layer Thickness (considering displacement currents) is given by many authors (Pollaczek, 1926; Wedepohl and Wilcox, 1973; Kaplan, 1981; Ametani *et al.*, 2009; Carson, 1926; Uribe *et al.*, 2004; 2000; Dommel, 1986):

$$p = 1 / \sqrt{j\omega(\sigma + j\omega\epsilon_0\epsilon_r)\mu} \quad (1b)$$

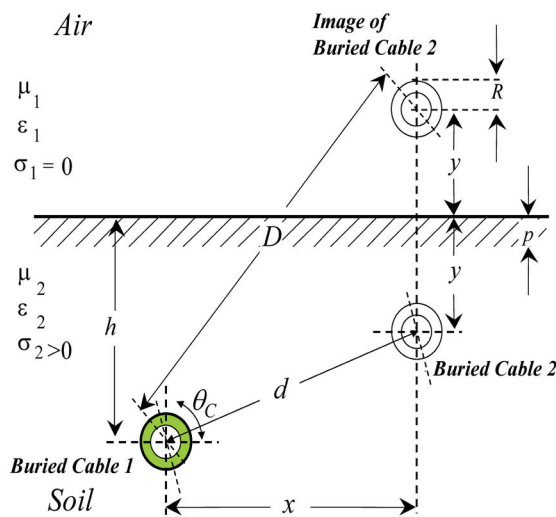


Figure 1. Geometry of the underground system and the image of one of the conductors in the air

where  $\sigma$  is the ground resistivity ( $\Omega \cdot m$ ) and  $\varepsilon$  is the relative permittivity ( $\varepsilon_0$  for the vacuum (F/m) and  $\varepsilon_r$  of the soil).

After the second integral in (1a) is expressed via Bessel functions, where  $K_0$  is the Bessel function of zero order, thus (1a) becomes (parameters  $D$  and  $d$  are shown in Figure1) (Wedepohl and Wilcox, 1973):

$$Z_g(\omega) = \frac{j\omega\mu}{2\pi} [K_0(D/p) - K_0(d/p) + J_{Poll}] \quad (2)$$

where

$$J_{Poll} = (I_2 - 2I_3 + I_4)p^2 \quad (3a)$$

$$I_2 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \sqrt{\alpha^2 + 1/p^2} \cdot e^{-(h+y)\sqrt{\alpha^2 + 1/p^2}} e^{j\alpha x} d\alpha \quad (3b)$$

$$I_3 = \int_0^{\infty} \alpha e^{-(h+y)\sqrt{\alpha^2 + 1/p^2}} e^{j\alpha x} d\alpha \quad (3c)$$

$$I_4 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \alpha e^{-(h+y)\sqrt{\alpha^2 + 1/p^2}} e^{j\alpha x} d\alpha \quad (3d)$$

According to (3b) and (3d), the solution for  $I_2$  and  $I_4$  is given by

$$I_2 = \frac{2(h+y)^2}{D^2 p^2} K_2(D/p) + \frac{2[(h+y)^2 - x^2]}{D^3 p} K_1(D/p) \quad (4a)$$

$$I_4 = \frac{2jx(h+y)}{D^2} K_2(D/p) \quad (4b)$$

respectively, where  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  represent modified Bessel functions of first and second order, respectively. For  $I_3$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} I_3 = & \frac{1}{D^2 p^2} \int_{(h+y)/D}^{\infty} [(h+y)^2 - x^2] t e^{-Dt/p} dt + \dots \\ & \dots + \frac{jx(h+y)}{D^2 p^2} \int_1^{\infty} \left[ \frac{1}{\sqrt{t^2 - 1}} + 2\sqrt{t^2 - 1} \right] e^{-Dt/p} dt + \dots \\ & \dots + \frac{x(h+y)}{D^2 p^2} \int_{(h+y)/D}^1 \left[ 2\sqrt{1 - t^2} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - t^2}} \right] e^{-Dt/p} dt \end{aligned} \quad (4c)$$

The first part of the integral in (4c) is easily evaluated by traditional integration; the second part corresponds to  $K_2(D/p)$ . In Wedepohl and Wilcox (1973), it is propo-

sed that the third part of (4c) be evaluated by series expansion of the exponential function and then integrated term-by-term to give  $S_{ser}(D/p, |x|, 1)$ , with  $\ell = h + y$ . That is

$$\begin{aligned} I_3 = & \frac{[(h+y)^2 - x^2]}{D^4} [1 + (h+y)/p] e^{-(h+y)/p} + \dots \\ & \dots + \frac{jx(h+y)}{D^2} K_2(D/p) + \dots \\ & \dots + \frac{x(h+y)^2}{D^2 p^2} S_{ser}\left(\frac{D}{p}, |x|, \ell\right) \end{aligned} \quad (4d)$$

The series term  $S_{ser}$  from (4d) is further analyzed in the following sections.

### Wedepohl-Wilcox series

Despite some typographical errors in Wedepohl and Wilcox (1973) regarding the converging series, these can be split up into the following four types of terms:

$$S_{ser}\left(\frac{D}{p}, |x|, \ell\right) = S_1 + S_2 + S_3 + S_4 \quad (5)$$

$S_1$  to  $S_4$  are displayed here differently than in Wedepohl and Wilcox (1973) for better clarity of programming implementation, as shown in (6). For instance, an analysis of  $S_1$ , given by (6a), reveals that the leading terms

$$\frac{1}{k(k+2)!} \text{ and } \left(\frac{D}{p}\right)^{k+2}, \quad k = 2, 3, \dots$$

can be stored into two separate vectors and used whenever is required. In addition, it can be observed in (6)-(9) the nesting nature of the remaining terms.

It is noted that the aforementioned leading terms are frequency dependent whilst the nested terms depend only on the geometry of the cable system.

### First term $S_1$

$$\begin{aligned} S_1 = & \left\{ \left( \theta - \frac{\ell \cdot |x|}{D^2} \right) + \dots \right. \\ & \dots + \frac{1}{2(2!)} \left( \frac{D}{p} \right)^2 \left\{ \frac{\ell^2 \cdot |x|^3}{D^4} + \frac{1}{2} \left( \theta - \frac{\ell \cdot |x|}{D^2} \right) \right\} + \dots \\ & \dots + \frac{1}{3(4!)} \left( \frac{D}{p} \right)^4 \left\{ \frac{\ell^3 \cdot |x|^3}{D^6} + \frac{3}{4} \left[ \frac{\ell \cdot |x|^3}{D^4} + \frac{1}{2} \left( \theta - \frac{\ell \cdot |x|}{D^2} \right) \right] \right\} + \dots \\ & \dots + \frac{1}{4(6!)} \left( \frac{D}{p} \right)^6 \left\{ \frac{\ell^3 \cdot |x|^3}{D^8} + \frac{5}{6} \left[ \frac{\ell^3 \cdot |x|^3}{D^6} + \frac{3}{4} \left[ \frac{\ell \cdot |x|^3}{D^4} + \frac{1}{2} \left( \theta - \frac{\ell \cdot |x|}{D^2} \right) \right] \right] \right\} + \dots \\ & \dots + \frac{1}{5(8!)} \left( \frac{D}{p} \right)^8 \left\{ \frac{\ell^3 \cdot |x|^3}{D^{10}} + \frac{7}{8} \left[ \frac{\ell^3 \cdot |x|^3}{D^8} + \frac{5}{6} \left[ \frac{\ell^3 \cdot |x|^3}{D^6} + \frac{3}{4} \left[ \frac{\ell \cdot |x|^3}{D^4} + \frac{1}{2} \left( \theta - \frac{\ell \cdot |x|}{D^2} \right) \right] \right] \right] \right\} + \dots \right\} \end{aligned} \quad (6a)$$

### Second term $S_2$

$$\begin{aligned}
 S_2 = & - \left\{ \frac{2}{3(1!)} \left( \frac{D}{p} \right) \left\{ \left( \frac{|x|^3}{D^3} \right) + \dots \right. \right. \\
 & \dots + \frac{2}{5(3!)} \left( \frac{D}{p} \right)^3 \left\{ \frac{\ell^2 \cdot |x|^3}{D^5} + \frac{2}{3} \left( \frac{|x|^3}{D^3} \right) \right\} + \dots \\
 & \dots + \frac{2}{7(5!)} \left( \frac{D}{p} \right)^5 \left\{ \frac{\ell^4 \cdot |x|^3}{D^7} + \frac{4}{5} \left[ \frac{\ell^2 \cdot |x|^3}{D^5} + \frac{2}{3} \left( \frac{|x|^3}{D^3} \right) \right] \right\} + \dots \\
 & \dots + \frac{2}{9(7!)} \left( \frac{D}{p} \right)^7 \left\{ \frac{\ell^6 \cdot |x|^3}{D^9} + \frac{6}{7} \left[ \frac{\ell^4 \cdot |x|^3}{D^7} + \frac{4}{5} \left[ \frac{\ell^2 \cdot |x|^3}{D^5} + \frac{2}{3} \left( \frac{|x|^3}{D^3} \right) \right] \right] \right\} + \dots \\
 & \dots + \frac{2}{11(9!)} \left( \frac{D}{p} \right)^9 \left\{ \frac{\ell^8 \cdot |x|^3}{D^{11}} + \frac{8}{9} \left[ \frac{\ell^6 \cdot |x|^3}{D^9} + \frac{6}{7} \left[ \frac{\ell^4 \cdot |x|^3}{D^7} + \frac{4}{5} \left[ \frac{\ell^2 \cdot |x|^3}{D^5} + \frac{2}{3} \left( \frac{|x|^3}{D^3} \right) \right] \right] \right] \right\} + \dots \quad (7)
 \end{aligned}$$

### Third term $S_3$

$$\begin{aligned}
 S_3 = & - \left\{ \theta + \dots \right. \\
 & \dots + \frac{1}{2(2!)} \left( \frac{D}{p} \right)^2 \left\{ \frac{\ell \cdot |x|}{D^2} + \theta \right\} + \dots \\
 & \dots + \frac{1}{4(4!)} \left( \frac{D}{p} \right)^4 \left\{ \frac{\ell^3 \cdot |x|}{D^4} + \frac{3}{2} \left[ \frac{\ell \cdot |x|}{D^2} + \theta \right] \right\} + \dots \\
 & \dots + \frac{1}{6(6!)} \left( \frac{D}{p} \right)^6 \left\{ \frac{\ell^5 \cdot |x|}{D^6} + \frac{5}{3} \left[ \frac{\ell^3 \cdot |x|}{D^4} + \frac{3}{2} \left[ \frac{\ell \cdot |x|}{D^2} + \theta \right] \right] \right\} + \dots \\
 & \dots + \frac{1}{8(8!)} \left( \frac{D}{p} \right)^8 \left\{ \frac{\ell^7 \cdot |x|}{D^8} + \frac{7}{4} \left[ \frac{\ell^5 \cdot |x|}{D^6} + \frac{5}{3} \left[ \frac{\ell^3 \cdot |x|}{D^4} + \frac{3}{2} \left[ \frac{\ell \cdot |x|}{D^2} + \theta \right] \right] \right] \right\} + \dots \quad (8)
 \end{aligned}$$

### Fourth term $S_4$

$$\begin{aligned}
 S_4 = & + \left\{ \frac{1}{1(1!)} \left( \frac{D}{p} \right) \left\{ \left( \frac{|x|}{D} \right) + \dots \right. \right. \\
 & \dots + \frac{1}{3(3!)} \left( \frac{D}{p} \right)^3 \left\{ \frac{\ell^2 \cdot |x|}{D^3} + \frac{2}{1} \left( \frac{|x|}{D} \right) \right\} + \dots \\
 & \dots + \frac{1}{5(5!)} \left( \frac{D}{p} \right)^5 \left\{ \frac{\ell^4 \cdot |x|}{D^5} + \frac{4}{3} \left[ \frac{\ell^2 \cdot |x|}{D^3} + \frac{2}{1} \left( \frac{|x|}{D} \right) \right] \right\} + \dots \\
 & \dots + \frac{1}{7(7!)} \left( \frac{D}{p} \right)^7 \left\{ \frac{\ell^6 \cdot |x|}{D^7} + \frac{6}{5} \left[ \frac{\ell^4 \cdot |x|}{D^5} + \frac{4}{3} \left[ \frac{\ell^2 \cdot |x|}{D^3} + \frac{2}{1} \left( \frac{|x|}{D} \right) \right] \right] \right\} + \dots \\
 & \dots + \frac{1}{9(9!)} \left( \frac{D}{p} \right)^9 \left\{ \frac{\ell^8 \cdot |x|}{D^9} + \frac{8}{7} \left[ \frac{\ell^6 \cdot |x|}{D^7} + \frac{6}{5} \left[ \frac{\ell^4 \cdot |x|}{D^5} + \frac{4}{3} \left[ \frac{\ell^2 \cdot |x|}{D^3} + \frac{2}{1} \left( \frac{|x|}{D} \right) \right] \right] \right] \right\} + \dots \quad (9)
 \end{aligned}$$

## Convergence analysis

### Series versus numerical integration

Consider the three cable application case reported in Wedepohl and Wilcox (1973) and reproduced here in Figure 2. For this case, the frequency range has been uniformly sampled from 1Hz to 10MHz by using 100 points.

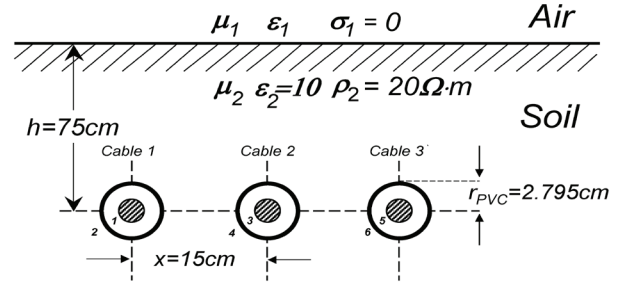


Figure 2. Underground cable transmission system, taken from Wedepohl and Wilcox (1973)

As a first evaluation, we use the series proposed by Wedepohl-Wilcox,  $S_{serf}$  given by (5). The second evaluation corresponds to the trapezoidal-based numerical integration of the third integral in (4c), labeled  $S_{int}$ . A step equal to  $10^{-4}$  has been used for calculating  $S_{int}$ . The behavior of both evaluations is presented in Figure 3a. In this figure, the real and complex components of  $S_{int}$  are presented in black continuous dotted line. As for the  $S_{serf}$  the number of terms has been varied and the corresponding result is shown in the gray dashed line. From the results in Figure 3a, it can be noticed that the first four terms of each  $S_n$ ,  $n = 1, \dots, 4$ , give a fairly good agreement compared to  $S_{int}$ . Further evaluations including more than four terms did not change meaningfully the results given by  $S_{serf}$ . This obeys to the theory of convergence of a series around a given point (Kaplan, 1981).

### Ratio test

In addition, the uniform convergence of the sequence of partial sums (or series solution  $S_n$ ) has been calculated by using the following ratio test (Kaplan, 1981), for  $n = 1, 2, 3$ , and 4

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{S_{n_{k+1}}}{S_{n_k}} \right| < 1 \quad (10)$$

The results of evaluating (10) are shown in Figure 3b. From this numerical analysis, one can observe the smooth behavior of the four sets of curves  $S_n$  when approximating  $S_{serf}$  which indicates a uniform convergence feature, as defined in (Kaplan, 1981).

### Proposed hybrid algorithm

From Figure 3a it can be seen that all four terms of the series give accurate results, at very low computational

expenses, up to  $D/|p| \approx 2$ . Therefore, it is proposed here to use this number as a criterion for a hybrid algorithm that switches between series and numerical integration. This criterion contrasts to the one proposed in Wedepohl and Wilcox (1973) where  $D/|p| = 1/4$  is used to switch between series and a closed form solution of (2). Furthermore, in the proposed hybrid algorithm, the displacement current has also been accounted for, as indicated in (1b).

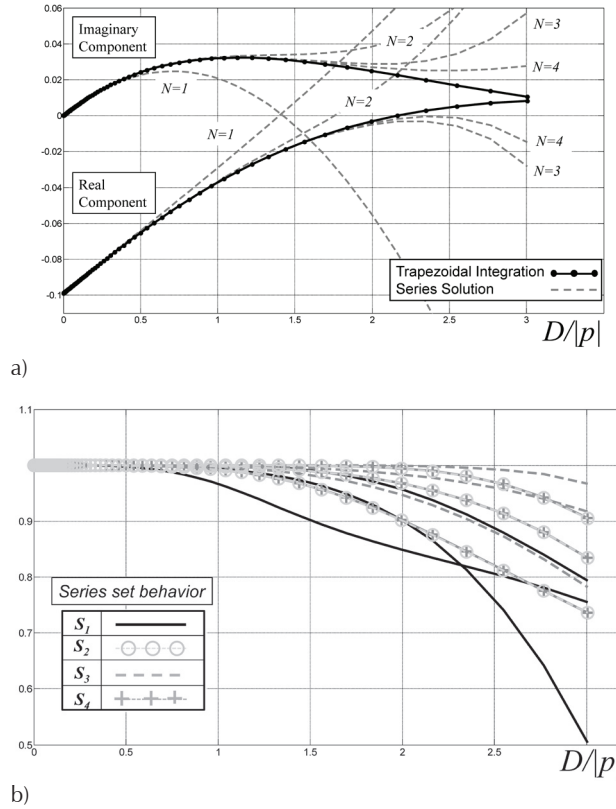


Figure 3. Series convergence test, a) comparison between series solution and trapezoidal integration regarding the number of terms, b) ratio test for convergence (Kaplan, 1981)

The main numerical characteristics of the results that have been obtained for the particular underground cable system configuration in Figure 2 are general. Thus, it can also be extended to a broad range of cable configurations as explained in the following section.

### Broad range algorithmic solution

It should be mentioned here that the earth-return impedance, given by (1) has been traditionally handled by using true variables. That is, specific physical and geo-

metrical parameters and continuous complex frequency variables are usually involved to calculate the earth return impedance of the system. This consideration is perfectly valid when simulating a transient in that specific system.

Nevertheless, a simple change of variables, as proposed here, leads to a wide range representation of the earth return impedance. The wide range formulation encloses the majority of practical cases and can be also used as benchmark for alternative solution methods.

Consider the following normalized dimensionless parameter definitions, which are graphically represented in Figure 4 (Carson, 1926; Uribe, 2004)

$$\xi = \frac{y+h}{|p|}, \quad \eta = \frac{x}{y+h} \quad \text{and} \quad \chi = \frac{y-h}{y+h} \quad (11a)$$

After some mathematical manipulations, one obtains the wide-range representation of (2) as (Uribe, 2004)

$$\underline{Z}_{Ground} \left( \frac{2\pi}{\omega\mu_0} \right) = j \cdot \left[ K_0(\sqrt{j} \cdot \xi \sqrt{\chi^2 + \eta^2}) - K_0(\sqrt{j} \cdot \xi \sqrt{1 + \eta^2}) + J_{Poll}(\xi, \eta) \right] \quad (11b)$$

where now the term  $J_{Poll}$  has been transformed into the following normalized parameter version of the Pollaczek integral (Carson, 1926; Uribe, 2004)

$$J_{Poll}(\xi, \eta) = 2 \int_0^\infty \frac{\exp[-\xi \sqrt{u^2 + j}]}{|u| + \sqrt{u^2 + j}} \cos(u \cdot \xi \eta) du \quad (11c)$$

In obtaining (11c), the change of variable  $\alpha = u/|p|$  has been applied also to (1a).

Moreover, the transformation to normalized parameters is of general applicability. For instance, consider the following closed-form expression derived by Wedepohl-Wilcox from the series expansion (Wedepohl and Wilcox, 1973)

$$\underline{Z}_{Ground} = \frac{j\omega\mu_0}{2\pi} \cdot \left[ -\log(\gamma d/2p) + \frac{1}{2} - \frac{2(h+y)}{3p} \right] \quad (11d)$$

In the normalized parameter form, (11d) becomes now a function of  $\xi$ ,  $\chi$ , and  $\eta$ , as follows (Uribe, 2004)

$$\underline{Z}_{Ground} \left( \frac{2\pi}{\omega\mu_0} \right) = j \cdot \left[ -\log \left( \gamma \sqrt{j} \cdot \xi \sqrt{\chi^2 + \eta^2} / 2 \right) + \frac{1}{2} - \frac{2}{3} \sqrt{j} \cdot \xi \right] \quad (11d)$$



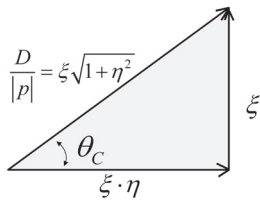


Figure 4. Dimensionless normalized vector relations between parameters as described first by Carson's ground-wave propagation theory (Carson, 1926)

The range for both true and normalized variables is presented in Table 1, following the recommendations from (Ametani *et al.*, 2009). Although the numerical solution of (11c) can be computed, one can take the fast hybrid solution in true variables, as described in the last section "proposed hybrid algorithm". Then, the result can be transformed into dimensionless variables by using (11a).

Table 1. Ranges of physical and normalized variables

True variables	Description
$0.5 < h, y < 100$	cable conductor depth (m)
$0 < x < 500$	distance between cables (m)
$10^{-4} < \sigma < 10^0$	conductivity (Siemens/m)
	angular frequency (rad/s)
	$2\pi < \omega < 2\pi \times 10^9$
Normalized parameters	
$10^{-6} < \xi < 10^2$	defined in (11a)
$10^{-3} < \eta < 10^4$	defined in (11a)
$0 < \chi < 1$	defined in (11a)

Figure 5 depicts the numerical solution of  $J_{Poll}(x, h)$ , given by (11c). This solution was obtained with the hybrid algorithm where 100 samples for  $x$  and 10 samples for  $h$  have been used. The results obtained by the Wedepohl-Wilcox algorithm, by trapezoidal integra-

tion, and by the Gauss-Kronrod algorithm can be seen in Appendix A.

For the numerical analysis in the next section, the hybrid algorithm is taken as basis. Firstly, it has a strong fundament on the numerical analysis presented in section "series versus numerical integration", specifically for the switching criterions. Secondly, it does not show numerical oscillations as other methods (Figure 11, Appendix A).

## Computational analysis

The computational performance of the aforementioned methodologies for obtaining the wide range solution curves (as shown in Figure 5) is presented in Table 2. The first one corresponds to the trapezoidal integration applied to the third integral in (4c). The second one is the hybrid algorithm proposed here which uses the convergent series from (5) combined with trapezoidal integration on (4c). The third one uses the Wedepohl-Wilcox algorithm using the convergent series at the low frequency range and formula (11d) or (11e) for the high frequency one (Wedepohl and Wilcox, 1973). Finally, the fourth one consists on a widely used method, i.e., Gauss-Kronrod, directly to the wide range formulation (11c) using the default absolute tolerance of  $10^{-10}$  (using double precision format).

Table 2 resumes the rms-error (calculated in a classical form (Kaplan, 1981) and the computational times required by the four methods. Only the results for three different values of  $\eta$ , chosen from the curves in Figure 5, are shown in Table 2. To obtain the results in Table 2, Matlab® v7.8 on a 2.4GHz processor with 8GHz RAM was used.

From Table 2 it can be observed that the computational time by the Gauss-Kronrod method is larger than the rest of the methods (much larger for  $\eta_{10}$ ), as expected. The Wedepohl-Wilcox solution takes CPU times

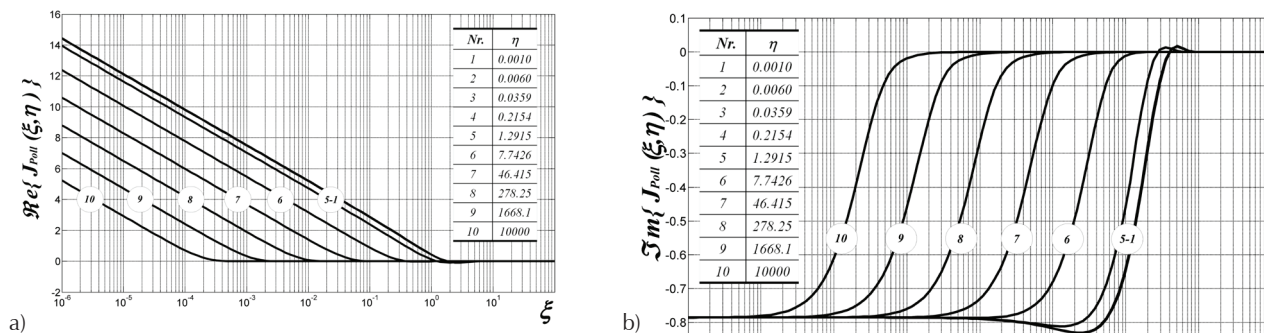


Figure 5. Wide range solution of  $J_{Poll}(\xi, \eta)$  calculated here with the proposed hybrid algorithm, a) real component, b) imaginary component

Table 2. Cpu times and rms error

Trapezoidal rule on (4c)		Test methodology			
		Hybrid algorithm on (4c) and (5)	Wedepohl-Wilcox algorithm (5) and (11d)	Direct Gauss-Kronrod on (11c)	
$\eta_1$	CPU time (Sec)	0.075400400	0.06800050	0.09360059	0.358802
	rms error	0.000010414	(base)	0.03823930	0.000003
$\eta_5$	CPU time (Sec)	0.079000500	0.07600050	0.0780005	0.3900024
	rms error	0.004299822	(base)	0.0444786	0.0006413
$\eta_{10}$	CPU time (Sec)	0.075400400	0.06360060	0.0936006	6.3024403
	rms error	0.000000929	(base)	0.2089789	0.0071932

comparable to trapezoidal and hybrid methods; however, its rms-error increases for larger values of  $\eta$ . This is perhaps due to the “weak” criterion for switching between the series and the closed-formula.

### Transient

A transient calculation of the underground cable system of 5km length, shown in Figure 2, is presented in the following. The open circuit voltage and the short circuit current responses are both calculated through the inverse Numerical Laplace Transform (cable data are available in Appendix B) (Uribe *et al.*, 2000).

A unit step voltage is injected to the core of cable 1 at the sending end of the underground cable system. The voltages at the receiving end are shown in Figure 6a for the energized core, while Figure 6b presents the induced voltages for cores 3 and 5, and sheaths 2, 4 and 6.

The currents at the receiving end are depicted in Figure 7a for the energized core 1 and in Figure 7b for the circulating currents.

Each core and sheath conductor of the cable system is coupled with each other through four different ground-return loops.

It should be mentioned here that, when the core of cable 1 is energized, the magnitude of the induced voltages and circulating currents for the presented test cases, become naturally smaller as the ground loop distances increases. In these cases, the accuracy of the ground-return impedance calculation becomes important to identify electromagnetic couplings or interference phenomena between underground and overhead transmission or communication systems (Carson, 1926; Dommel, 1986).

Hence, the ground return modeling would directly impact on the estimated voltage or current waveform

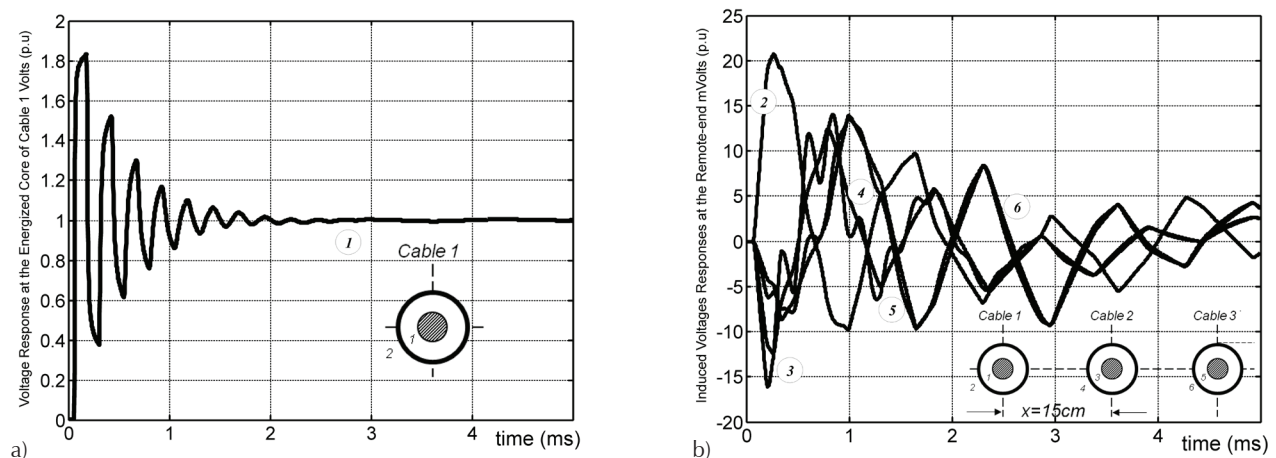


Figure 6. Voltage step-responses at the receiving end, a) energized core of cable 1, b) induced transient responses at core conductors 3, 5 and sheath conductors 2, 4 and 6

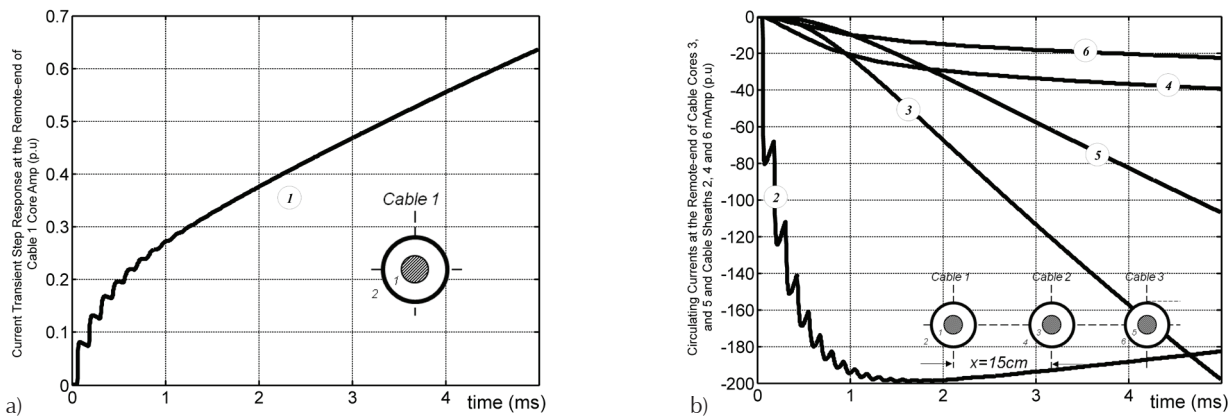


Figure 7. Current step-responses at the receiving end, a) energized core of cable 1, b) circulating current responses at core conductors 3, 5 and sheath conductors 2, 4 and 6

magnitude responses and on their respective phase behavior.

The transient response corresponding to Figures 6 and 7 have been also obtained with: Gauss-Kronrod direct numerical integration on (11c), the EMTP methodology (Dommel, 1986) and the Wedepohl-Wilcox (1973) derived formula (11d).

In the EMTP methodology the evaluation of the Pollaczek integral  $J_{Poll}$  in (2) is replaced by the evaluation of Carson's integral (Dommel, 1986).

Figure 8a depicts the relative differences for the induced voltage of the loops formed between core-1 on core-5 (circle 5 marker) and on sheath-6 (circle 6 marker), calculated with the aforementioned methods. Figure 8b presents the relative differences for their corresponding circulating currents.

As a second application case, consider again the cable transmission system from Figure 2 (Wedepohl and Wilcox, 1973), but now configured with a separation distance between cables equal to  $x = 5\text{m}$ .

The calculated induced voltages for this second study case are shown in Figure 9a, while the circulating currents are presented in Figure 9b. The corresponding relative differences are shown in Figure 10.

The comparison of Figures 6b and 9a shows that, the greater the distance between cables the lower the induced voltage magnitude, as expected. For this case, the relative differences for the longer formed loops between -core conductor 1 and core conductor 6 and sheath conductor 6 (as shown in Figures 8a and 10a) are more than three times bigger. This confirms that ground return models are highly sensitive on transient applications to the normalized parameters in (11a).

A distinct behavior is presented on the circulating currents in the sheath conductor 2 of the energized cable 1. The greater the distance between cables the greater the magnitude of the current. The relative differences shown in Figures 8b and 10b indicate a poor performance at low frequencies of the ground return models for this example.

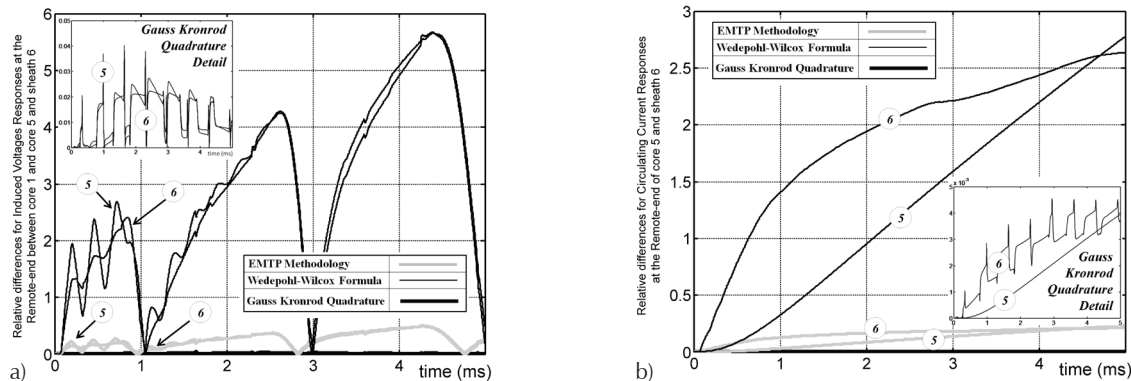


Figure 8. Relative differences for transient wave-form responses formed between loops cable core-1, cable core-5 and cable sheath-6, a) induced voltages, b) circulating currents



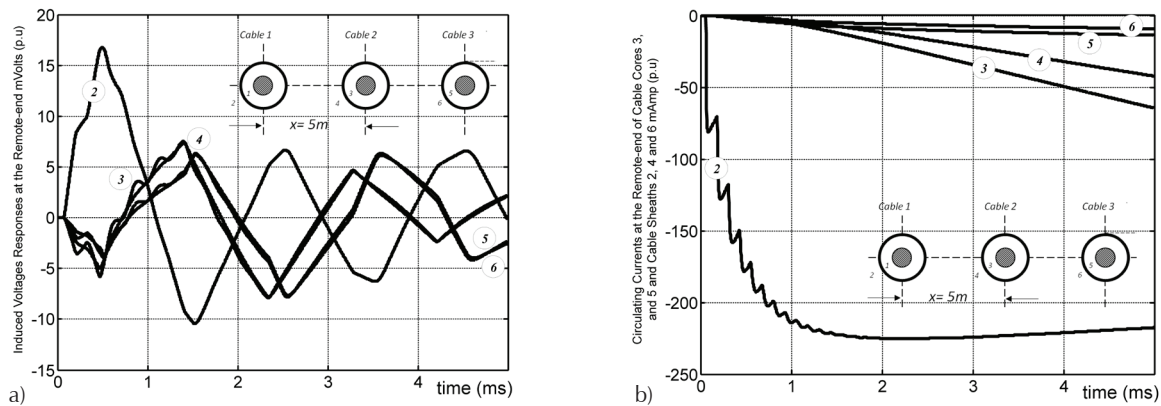


Figure 9. Second study case transient. Step-responses at the receiving end of the cable system, a) induced voltages, b) circulating currents

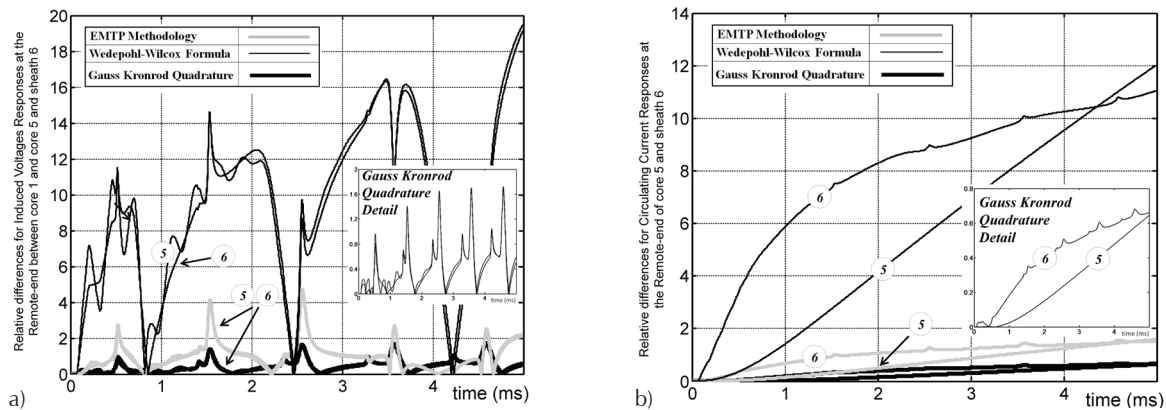


Figure 10. Second study case. Relative differences on the transient wave-form responses for the loops formed between cable core-1 with core-5 and sheath-6, a) induced voltages, b) circulating currents

## Conclusions

The Wedepohl-Wilcox original infinite series formulation to approximate the ground return impedance, as given by Pollaczek, has been implemented and numerically analyzed in this paper.

An alternative new hybrid method, applicable for both real and wide range dimensionless variables, has also been proposed and also analyzed in this paper. Since the proposed hybrid algorithm can be established for a wide range of physical and geometrical variables, it can be used to define any practical application ranges for approximate formulas and also to assess any other numerical methods (based on quadrature, infinite series, conformal mapping, numerical optimization, etc.) for improving accuracy on transient calculations.

For many years several algorithms to calculate the ground impedance have also been implemented and applied to a transient analysis. From the obtained results, it has been noticed that a precise calculation of such impedance is needed to obtain accurate and reliable time domain transient responses.

## Appendix A

The wide range approximate solutions of Pollaczek's integral calculated via the Wedepohl-Wilcox algorithm, trapezoidal integration, and Gauss-Kronrod algorithm, are depicted in Figure 11. There are some numerical oscillations, that are more noticeable in the real component case of the  $\eta_{10}$  curve (its value is tabulated in

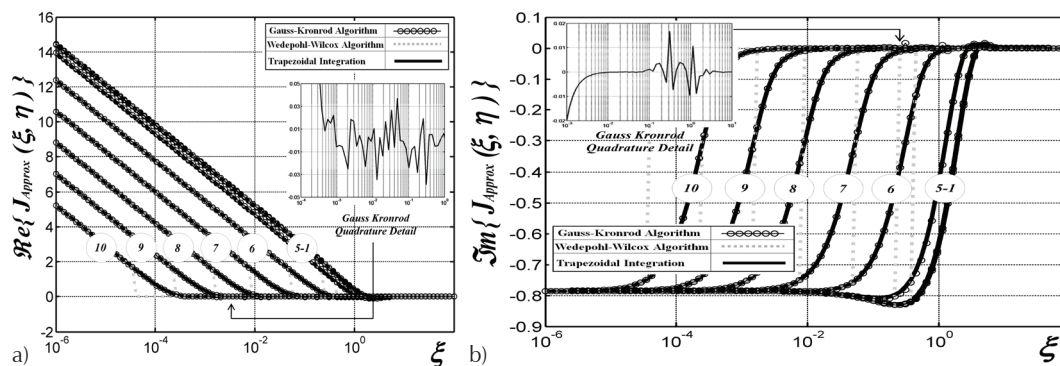


Figure 11. Wide range solution of  $J_{\text{Approx}}(\xi, \eta)$  calculated with approximate methodologies, a) real component, b) imaginary component

Figure 5), when applying the Gauss-Kronrod algorithm in the following range  $10^{-4} < \xi < 10^0$ .

## Appendix B

Cable design specifications for the paper transient application cases are depicted in Figure 12.

### Cable Design Data

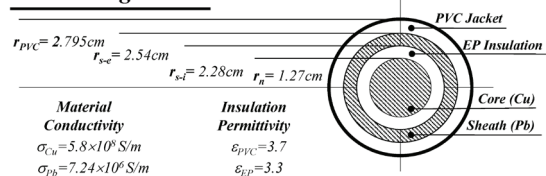


Figure 12. Original cable data for the electromagnetic transient calculation example, taken from Wedepohl and Wilcox (1973)

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